



Littlefield Letters



Vol. 90

JUNE 1990

Number 6

JUNE MUSTER CALL

date: Thursday
14 June 1990
time: 6:15 p.m.
Mess Call
place: Wyatt's Cafeteria
Hancock Center

School's out and all the school children are on vacation. I am happy to report that your camp does not take a summer vacation. We continue to provide you with an opportunity to take your family out to eat and to share in an evening of dealing with the business of the camp and talking about our beloved Southland.

The program this month will be brought by our Commander, Marlow Taylor. He will talk on "Colt Pistols in the War". As an added attraction, we will also discuss the upcoming Division Convention and the events that will prove to keep our "troops" busy this summer.



TEXANS
pump it out...
DONATE BLOOD

CENTRAL TEXAS REGIONAL BLOOD CENTER

CONGRATULATIONS IN ORDER

On Sunday, May 13th, exactly 125 years after the last land battle of the War Between the States, the Battle of Palmito Ranch was reenacted at Bee Caves. The battle was under the sponsorship of Co. F., Terry's Texas Rangers Reenacted. Several of these whose namesake is this truly Texas Cavalry are members of Camp #59. Congratulations to these men for caring and for their work in making this event possible. Doing extra duty was Glenn Hadeler. Even though he is not a member of the Camp yet, we keep hoping he will be soon. Wyndy Faulk provided the artwork for T-shirts, posters, etc. The only minus was the shortage of soldiers. Even though the citizens of the Austin/Bee Caves area got a show they won't soon forget. Thanks, guys.

UDC FLAG ANNOUNCEMENT

Division President Edith Williams has announced the ladies have sent their first flag to be restored. It will cost \$2500. This flag was Gen. Tom Green's personal flag. It will be framed and will be delivered in time for the July opening of the Confederate Museum in Waco. More flags will be sent for restoration as the money becomes available.



ENLISTMENTS

WELCOME NEW MEMBERS

The recruiting sergeant is pleased to announce that two new men have enlisted in Camp #59 for this year's campaign. Accepted into membership at the May meeting were Eddie Davis and Tommy Thames. EDDIE DAVIS joins the SCV upon the record of his great grandfather Allen Franklin Stoker, Jr. who was a private in Co. B, Spy Co, Gonzales City, Waul's Legion of Cavalry. He served until discharged in 1865. Eddie is an artist whose birthday is February 5th. He resides at 705 Crestland, Austin 78752, #459-1953.

TOMMY D. THAMES joins upon the record of his great grandfather Wiley Monroe Cothron who was a private in Co. C, 27th Alabama Volunteer Infantry. He also served until the end of the War. Tommy is a painter whose birthday is August 15th. His address is 21202 Paseo De Vaca Circle, Lago Vista 78645, #267-9430.

We hope to see you take an active part in your camp. For our older members, add these men to your rosters and introduce yourself to them; make them feel welcome. Remember, you only have one name each to learn; whereas, they have several.

WE FOUGHT THE FIGHT

We have been telling you that attempts to erode our Southern heritage would some day rear its ugly head here in Austin. It finally did, albeit in a back-handed manner. A recent attempt had been made to change the name of Albert Sidney Johnston High School to the Gordon Bailey H.S. who was its first principal. While this reason seems innocuous enough, the media and several at the school board picked up on the recurrent apologist theme of the South and slavery. Johnston has been maligned due to the fact, according to them, that he was a slaveowner and fought to continue slavery.

Attending the school board hearing and testifying on behalf of keeping the name were David Morris, John Hagler, and Greg Hector. Though no longer a member of this camp, Past Commander Bruce Marshall spoke opposing the name change also. It was also interesting to note that a representative of the West Point Society also spoke in Johnston's behalf. Also interesting was the fact that the student body seems overwhelmingly against the change of name not because of who Johnston was but because of school pride and tradition. When any more of these attacks arise, we are going to need a lot more "troops" to fight the battle, ladies as well as men.

The "Littlefield Letters" is the official publication of the Major George W. Littlefield Camp No 59, Sons of Confederate Veterans. Permission to reprint is granted; credit line is appreciated. Subscriptions available for \$10 per year from Gregory T. Hector, editor, 5914 Sunshine Drive, Austin, Texas 78757.

WELLS BRANCH HOMESTEAD

During the weekend of June 9 and 10, the Battery will encamp at Wells Branch Homestead and hold a regular demonstration of WBTS Field Artillery. Those with uniforms who would participate should check with Commander David Morris for details.

Greg Hector is also scheduled to play the banjo and sing Southern Songs twice during the weekend. If you are not soldiering with us, come out and see what we do, lending us your moral support. Friendly faces are always welcome.

CONVENTION--LAST CALL

Excuse our repetition, but we would like to take this last opportunity to remind you of the annual Texas Division SCV Convention hosted each summer by a camp in the Division. This year the Convention will be hosted by the Dunn-Holt-Midkiff Camp #1441 at the Midland Hilton Hotel in Midland. This is the first time in recent history the convention has been held in Midland. They have planned a wonderful time for all those attending.

This is a delegate convention, and each camp will, no doubt, follow the new rules of the National Convention, and allow one delegate for each seven (7) members or a greater part thereof. Camp #59 now has sixty-three (63) members. This means that we are supposed to have nine (9) delegates to the convention. Were we to find more than nine delegates, we can always have alternate delegates. Of course, any member, whether delegate or not, is invited and welcomed to attend the festivities.

While we are on the subject of summer conventions, please be reminded of the General Convention to be held in Arkansas in August. Consult your "Confederate Veteran" magazine for details concerning this convention. We need delegates to this one, too. Will you come to either or both?

"DON'T DUCK," HE SAID

Sharpshooters, those men with the deadly aim, served in all Southern units and were very effective as snipers. At the Battle of Spotsylvania in May 1864, a group of Confederate snipers had pinned down a Union artillery unit. Union General John Sedgwick had just gotten through reassuring his men by shouting, "Don't duck, they couldn't hit an elephant at this distance." Whereupon he was shot and killed.

A most famous regiment of sharpshooters of this period was the 1st Regiment of U.S. Sharpshooters founded in the summer of 1861. Their members were drawn from a number of states. The officers were appointed by the U.S. government, and their commander was Colonel Hiram Berdan. He had undertaken this assignment with the permission of President Lincoln.

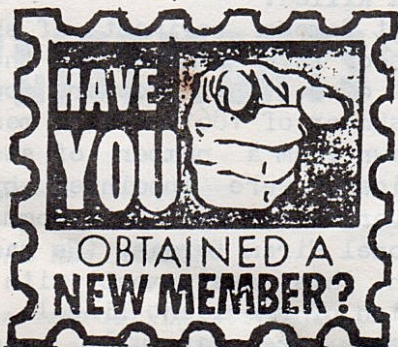
The men were carefully selected from countless volunteers. To be eligible a man had to be able to put ten consecutive bullets inside a ten-inch circle at 200 yards. Special training was given the chosen few with breech-loading Sharps rifles, invented by Christian Sharps about 1850. This special rifle did not have to be fired from a fixed rest in order to be accurate.

Berdan's Sharpshooters wore green uniforms and green plumed hats because that color offered better camouflage as they waited to pick off Confederates. Their deeds became legendary, and they were always welcomed in any division.



OOPS, WE GOOFED!

I am sure some of you noticed that May's newsletter had the names of the Dixie Donors missing. Due to a publishing error, these names did not appear in their usual spot. We sincerely apologize for this neglect. We greatly appreciate these contributions to our treasury. This money helps pay for this newsletter and other projects and programs our minimal dues would not allow us to undertake. Thanks, again.



ADJUTANT'S REPORT

Your adjutant is happy to report the camp is in good health, and there is money in the bank. We have sixty-three members at the present time.

The saddest part of this job is having to say good by to old friends. Each year since I have been your adjutant, a few men for some reason decide not to reenlist. They usually don't bother to call or write to explain; they just don't answer our call for dues. That means that at the end of June, I have to suspend them for non-payment of dues. This year is no different. The following Compatriots have for unknown reasons refused to heed our call for dues and will have to be suspended June 30th unless they pay their dues: CLYDE E. BOURKE, JR., LAMAR CAIN, W.A. MALEY, WILLIAM D. MCMORDIE. If you think you can help save any of these men for the camp, please feel free to do so with our thanks. The South needs all her sons.

- THE LITTLEFIELD LETTERS -

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SONS OF CONFEDERATE VETERANS

Major George Washington Littlefield Camp NO 59

5914 Sunshine Drive • Austin, Texas 78757

Gregory T. Hector, Editor



1989
DIXIE DONORS
Littlefield Brigade

These Compatriots have contributed \$10 or more toward the publication of this newsletter and the continuation of the Cause.

Tom Bishop	Bill Kaiser	Ross Shipman
Earl Browning	Lee Kinard	Edwin Smith
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Sam Cook	Allen Matetzsch	Marlow Taylor
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